

Species 1: Figures 1a-1b
Species 2: Figure 3
Species 3: Figure 4
Species 4: Figure 5
Species 5: Figure 6-7
Species 6: Figure 8
Species 7: Figure 9
Species 8: Figures 10 and 17- 18
Species 9: Figures 11 and 16
Species 10: Figure 12
Species 11: Figure 13
Species 12: Figure 14
Species 13: Figure 15
Species 14: Figure 19
Species 15: Figure 20
Species 16: Figure 21

Applicants provisionally elect Species 6, corresponding to Figure 8, with traverse. Claims 1- 5, 8-10, 14- 16, and 19 - 21 read upon the elected Species.

Applicants submit that claims 1-5, 8-10, 14- 16, and 19 - 21 also read on Species 4, which corresponds to FIG. 5. Applicants respectfully submit that the addition of Species 4 to elected



Species 6 would provide little additional examination burden because Species 4 and elected Species 6 correspond to an identical set of independent and dependent claims. Applicants request therefore that Species 4 be joined with elected Species 6 for examination.

Presently, the Examiner identifies no claim as being generic. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is generic with respect to at least each of Species 1 - 9. If independent claim 1 is found allowable, Applicants intend to provoke rejoinder and allowance under MPEP § 806.04(d) of any claims that may have been withdrawn as being drawn to any of the unelected species and that can be properly presented to depend from claim 1 in its allowable form.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: February 26, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By  445-20
Louis J. DelJuidice 
Registration No.: 47,522
DARBY & DARBY P.C.
P.O. Box 770
Church Street Station
New York, New York 1008-0770
(212) 527-7700
(212) 527-7701 (Fax)
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant